

STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
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To California Licensed Cigarette Distributors: New Cigarette Tax Stamp Equipment Must Be in Place by April 30, 2005

In October 2004 and January 2005, the Board of Equalization advised you that new equipment will be required to apply the new California cigarette tax stamp.*

The new equipment must be in place and in operation by April 30, 2005 if you intend to stamp cigarettes for distribution in California. This includes not only the high-speed automated stamping equipment, but also the hand stamping equipment. Many distributors have already placed their orders. If you have not ordered your new equipment you should do so immediately. Please call Mr. Kevin Engram, Meyercord Revenue Sales and Marketing Manager, to discuss your equipment needs and installation requirements (wiring, data line, compressed air needs, etc.). He can also take your order and schedule the installation. Mr. Engram's telephone number is 630-682-6232.

After April 30, 2005, sales of the existing stamps will be discontinued. If you do not obtain the new equipment, you will not be able to apply the new California cigarette tax stamp.

For more information

If you have questions regarding the new stamp, please contact our Excise Taxes and Fees Division at 800-400-7115 (TDD/TTY 800-735-2929). Select the "Timber, Property Tax, or Other Taxes" option, and then select "Cigarette and Alcohol Taxes." Staff can help you weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except state holidays. You may also visit our website, *www.boe.ca.gov*, and go to the "Alternative Cigarette Tax Stamp Program" link for more information.

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Excise Taxes and Fees Division

*Our October and January notices can be read online at http://www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/pdf/127.pdf.

Taxpayers' Rights Advocate: 888-324-2798

To contact your Board Member, see www.boe.ca.gov/members/board.htm.